



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

09/817,254

03/27/2001

Naohito Takae

1614.1155

7682

21171 7590 09/25/2007
STAAS & HALSEY LLP
SUITE 700
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

PARRY, CHRISTOPHER L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2623

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

09/25/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	09/817,254		TAKAE ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Chris Parry		2623	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 August 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 17 and 18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 17 and 18 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/10/2007</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Newly submitted claims 17-18 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: Claim 17 is directed towards allowing a user to specify a condition to be alerted in accordance with an update to control information of a control object. Where as, Claim 1 is directed towards alerting a user if there is an alteration to the first information unknown to the user and responsive to the alteration to the first information, and not alerting the user if there is a change to the control information of a control object.

Since applicant has received an action on the merits for the originally presented invention, this invention has been constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, claims 17-18 have been withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. See 37 CFR 1.142(b) and MPEP § 821.03.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Specification

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the abstract should not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. . Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-4, 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Susskind (US 2001/0046366) in view of Marsh et al. "Marsh" (US 6,208,799) in view of Hirata (US 6,925,567) (all references were previously cited).

Regarding, Claim 1, Susskind discloses a method of managing control information (figure 4) in a control information management server (24 – figure 2) that collectively manages control information for controlling control objects (§§ 35-36), the method comprising: producing the control information in compliance with an instruction from a user that is issued by the user responding to first information (§§ 50). Susskind teaches a user will make a request for display of the current program listings or "first information" and then user selects a program to record on the user's video recording device.

Susskind further discloses collecting alteration information unknown to the user...(¶ 35-36, 45, and 51). Susskind teaches when changes are made to the settings of Video Recording Device 20 by a user within close proximity to VRD 20, the new information is sent to Internet Web Access Device 21 to allow the remote user to view the new settings.

Susskind teaches sending a message...to a mobile communication terminal (21 – figure 2) of the user, said message including the alteration information unknown to the user (¶ 36).

Susskind teaches controlling a control object in accordance with the altered control information (¶ 36, 38, and 51). However, Susskind fails to disclose collecting alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information, sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user, and altering the control information based on the alteration information received in response from the user.

In an analogous art, Marsh discloses a method for managing control information in a control information management server (11 – figure 1), that collectively manages control information for controlling control objects (15 – figure 1), the method comprising: collecting alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information (Col. 7, lines 55-63 and Col. 8, lines 35-45).

Marsh further discloses sending a message (figure 8)...to a mobile communication terminal of the user (14 – figure 1) (Col. 11, lines 45-61), said message including the alteration information unknown to the user (Col. 12, lines 4-20) and

Art Unit: 2623

responsive to the alteration to the first information, said message further including a request for permission to alter the control information (Col. 11, line 62 to Col. 12, line 28). Marsh teaches when a recording conflict is discovered after receiving alteration information unknown to the user, message 200 shown in figure 8 is sent to TV 14 notifying the user of the conflict and the message facilitates the user resolving the conflict interactively on their own.

Marsh teaches altering the control information based on the alteration information in response to permission sent from the mobile communication terminal of the user responding to the message (Col. 12, lines 4-28). Marsh teaches using the interactive message 200, a user is able to cancel the program(s) that cause the recording conflict and STB 11 will send the new settings to VCR 15 via VCR blaster 18 (Col. 5, lines 46-56). Marsh further teaches controlling a control object in accordance with the altered control information (Col 12, lines 4-28).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Susskind to include collecting alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information as taught by Marsh for the benefit of updating a recording event if an occurrence of a program-delay event, or a program-cancel event, results in automatically changing a future-time recording request to contain the new and correct channel and time.

The combination of Susskind and Marsh fail to specifically disclose sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user. In an analogous art, Hirata discloses sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal (1-4

– figure 1) of the user (Col. 10, line 60 to Col. 11, line 8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Susskind and Marsh to include sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user as taught by Hirata for the benefit of preventing unauthorized users from altering the authorized user's scheduled recordings.

As for Claim 2, the combination of Susskind, Marsh, and Hirata disclose, in particular Marsh teaches wherein altering the control information comprises: collecting alteration information (Col. 7, lines 49-63); requesting permission to alter the control information after notifying a user that the control information needs to be altered based on the collected alteration information (Col. 12, lines 4-28); and altering the control information upon receipt of the permission from the user (Col. 12, lines 10-28).

As for Claim 3, the combination of Susskind, Marsh, and Hirata disclose, in particular Marsh teaches wherein controlling the control object comprises: requesting permission to alter the control information after notifying the user that the control information be transmitted to the control object (Col. 11, line 54 to Col. 12, line 28); and transmitting the control information to the control object upon receipt of transmission permission from the user (Col. 5, lines 46-56 and Col. 12, lines 4-28).

As for Claim 4, the combination of Susskind, Marsh, and Hirata fail to disclose notifying the user of an abnormal state of the control object, when no control information

Art Unit: 2623

reception acknowledgement is sent from the control object after the transmission of the control information to the control object.

The examiner gives Official Notice that it is notoriously well known in the art to notify a user when a device to be controlled fails to respond to control information in an excepted manner for the purpose of informing the user that a desired task may not be carried out due to technical problem and thus enabling a user to take appropriate action.

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Susskind, Marsh, and Hirata to include notifying the user of an abnormal state of the control object, when no control information reception acknowledgement is sent from the control object after the transmission of the control information to the control object, for the benefit of providing a more user-friendly scheduled recording interface.

Regarding Claim 6, Susskind discloses a method (figure 4) of controlling a control object (20 – figure 2) in a control object controlling device (24 – figure 2) that controls a control object in accordance with control information (§§ 35-36), the method comprising: receiving the control information altered based on alteration information unknown to a user and responsive to alteration to first information, for altering the control information on a transmission side (§§ 35-36, 45, and 50-51). Susskind teaches a user will make a request for display of the current program listings or “first information” and then user selects a program to record on the user’s video recording device. Susskind further teaches when changes are made to the settings of Video Recording

Device 20 by a user within close proximity to VRD 20, the new information is sent to Internet Web Access Device 21 to allow the remote user to view the new settings.

Susskind teaches sending a message...to a mobile communication terminal (21 – figure 2) of the user, said message including the alteration information unknown to the user (§ 36).

Susskind teaches controlling the selected control object in accordance with the received control information (§ 36, 38, and 51). However, Susskind fails to disclose collecting alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information, sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user, and altering the control information based on the alteration information received in response from the user.

In an analogous art, Marsh discloses a method for managing control information in a control information management server (11 – figure 1), that collectively manages control information for controlling control objects (15 – figure 1), the method comprising: receiving the control information altered based on alteration information unknown to a user and responsive to alteration to first information, for altering the control information on a transmission side (Col. 7, lines 49-63 and Col. 8, lines 35-45).

Marsh further discloses sending a message (figure 8)...to a mobile communication terminal of the user (14 – figure 1) (Col. 11, lines 45-61), said message including the alteration information unknown to the user (Col. 12, lines 4-20) and responsive to the alteration to the first information, said message further including a request for permission to alter the control information (Col. 11, line 62 to Col. 12, line

Art Unit: 2623

28). Marsh teaches when a recording conflict is discovered after receiving alteration information unknown to the user, message 200 shown in figure 8 is sent to TV 14 notifying the user of the conflict and the message facilitates the user resolving the conflict interactively on their own.

Marsh teaches altering the control information based on the alteration information in response to permission sent from the mobile communication terminal of the user responding to the message, after collecting the alteration information (Col. 12, lines 4-28). Marsh teaches using the interactive message 200, a user is able to cancel the program(s) that cause the recording conflict and STB 11 will send the new settings to VCR 15 via VCR blaster 18 (Col. 5, lines 46-56).

Marsh further teaches selecting a control object (15 – figure 2) corresponding to the received control information (Col. 12, lines 20-28); and controlling the selected control object in accordance with the received control information (Col. 5, lines 46-56; Col 12, lines 4-28).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Susskind to include collecting alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information as taught by Marsh for the benefit of updating a recording event if an occurrence of a program-delay event, or a program-cancel event, results in automatically changing a future-time recording request to contain the new and correct channel and time.

The combination of Susskind and Marsh fail to specifically disclose sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user. In an analogous art,

Hirata discloses sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal (1-4 – figure 1) of the user (Col. 10, line 60 to Col. 11, line 8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Susskind and Marsh to include sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user as taught by Hirata for the benefit of preventing unauthorized users from altering the authorized user's scheduled recordings.

Regarding Claim 8, Susskind discloses a recording medium that can be read by a computer and stores a program for enabling a computer to perform an operation in a control information management server that collectively manages control information for controlling a control object (§§ 35-36), the program comprising: a control information producing procedure producing the control information in compliance with an instruction from a user that is issued by the user responding to first information (§§ 50). Susskind teaches a user will make a request for display of the current program listings or "first information" and then user selects a program to record on the user's video recording device.

Susskind further discloses a control information alteration procedure collecting alteration information unknown to the user... (§§ 35-36, 45, and 51). Susskind teaches when changes are made to the settings of Video Recording Device 20 by a user within close proximity to VRD 20, the new information is sent to Internet Web Access Device 21 to allow the remote user to view the new settings.

Susskind teaches sending a message...to a mobile communication terminal (21 – figure 2) of the user, said message including the alteration information unknown to the user (¶ 36).

However, Susskind fails to disclose collecting alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information, sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user, and altering the control information based on the alteration information received in response from the user.

In an analogous art, Marsh discloses a recording medium that can be read by a computer and stores a program for enabling a computer to perform an operation in a control information management server (11 – figure 1) that collectively manages control information for controlling a control object (15 – figure 1), the program comprising: a control information alteration procedure collecting alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information, used for altering the control information (Col. 7, lines 55-63 and Col. 8, lines 35-45).

Marsh further discloses sending a message (figure 8)...to a mobile communication terminal of the user (14 – figure 1) (Col. 11, lines 45-61), said message including the alteration information unknown to the user (Col. 12, lines 4-20) and responsive to the alteration to the first information, said message further including a request for permission to alter the control information (Col. 11, line 62 to Col. 12, line 28). Marsh teaches when a recording conflict is discovered after receiving alteration information unknown to the user, message 200 shown in figure 8 is sent to TV 14

notifying the user of the conflict and the message facilitates the user resolving the conflict interactively on their own.

Marsh teaches altering the control information in accordance with the alteration information in response to permission sent from the mobile communication terminal of the user (Col. 12, lines 4-28). Marsh teaches using the interactive message 200, a user is able to cancel the program(s) that cause the recording conflict and STB 11 will send the new settings to VCR 15 via VCR blaster 18 (Col. 5, lines 46-56).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Susskind to include collecting alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information as taught by Marsh for the benefit of updating a recording event if an occurrence of a program-delay event, or a program-cancel event, results in automatically changing a future-time recording request to contain the new and correct channel and time.

The combination of Susskind and Marsh fail to specifically disclose sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user. In an analogous art, Hirata discloses sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal (1-4 – figure 1) of the user (Col. 10, line 60 to Col. 11, line 8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Susskind and Marsh to include sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user as taught by Hirata for the benefit of preventing unauthorized users from altering the authorized user's scheduled recordings.

Regarding Claim 10, Susskind discloses a recording medium that can be read by a computer and stores a program for enabling a computer to perform an operation in a control object controlling device that controls a control object in accordance with control information, the program comprising: a control information reception procedure receiving control information altered based on alteration, information unknown to a user and responsive to alteration to first information, after collecting the alteration information for altering the control information on a transmission side, (§§ 35-36, 45, and 50-51). Susskind teaches a user will make a request for display of the current program listings or “first information” and then user selects a program to record on the user’s video recording device. Susskind further teaches when changes are made to the settings of Video Recording Device 20 by a user within close proximity to VRD 20, the new information is sent to Internet Web Access Device 21 to allow the remote user to view the new settings.

Susskind teaches sending a message...to a mobile communication terminal (21 – figure 2) of the user, said message including the alteration information unknown to the user (§§ 36).

Susskind teaches a control procedure selecting a control object corresponding to the received control information (§§ 36, 38, and 51). However, Susskind fails to disclose collecting alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information, sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user, and altering the control information based on the alteration information received in response from the user.

In an analogous art, Marsh discloses a recording medium that can be read by a computer and stores a program for enabling a computer to perform an operation in a control object controlling device that controls a control object in accordance with control information, the program comprising: a control information reception procedure receiving control information altered based on alteration information unknown to a user and responsive to alteration to first information, for altering the control information on a transmission side (Col. 7, lines 49-63 and Col. 8, lines 35-45).

Marsh further discloses sending a message (figure 8)...to a mobile communication terminal of the user (14 – figure 1) (Col. 11, lines 45-61), said message including the alteration information unknown to the user (Col. 12, lines 4-20) and responsive to the alteration to the first information, said message further including a request for permission to alter the control information (Col. 11, line 62 to Col. 12, line 28). Marsh teaches when a recording conflict is discovered after receiving alteration information unknown to the user, message 200 shown in figure 8 is sent to TV 14 notifying the user of the conflict and the message facilitates the user resolving the conflict interactively on their own.

Marsh teaches altering the control information based on the alteration information in response to permission sent from the mobile communication terminal of the user responding to the message (Col. 12, lines 4-28). Marsh teaches using the interactive message 200, a user is able to cancel the program(s) that cause the recording conflict and STB 11 will send the new settings to VCR 15 via VCR blaster 18 (Col. 5, lines 46-56).

Marsh further teaches a control procedure selecting a control object (15 – figure 2) corresponding to the received control information (Col. 12, lines 20-28), and controlling the selected control object in accordance with the received control information (Col. 5, lines 46-56; Col 12, lines 4-28).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Susskind to include collecting alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information as taught by Marsh for the benefit of updating a recording event if an occurrence of a program-delay event, or a program-cancel event, results in automatically changing a future-time recording request to contain the new and correct channel and time.

The combination of Susskind and Marsh fail to specifically disclose sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user. In an analogous art, Hirata discloses sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal (1-4 – figure 1) of the user (Col. 10, line 60 to Col. 11, line 8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Susskind and Marsh to include sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user as taught by Hirata for the benefit of preventing unauthorized users from altering the authorized user's scheduled recordings.

Regarding Claim 12, Susskind discloses a control information management server (24 – figure 2) that collectively manages control information for controlling a control object (20 – figure 2), the control information management server comprising: a

control information producing unit that produces the control information in compliance with an instruction from a user that is issued by the user responding to first information (§ 50). Susskind teaches a user will make a request for display of the current program listings or “first information” and then user selects a program to record on the user’s video recording device.

Susskind further discloses a control information alteration unit that collects alteration information unknown to the user... (§ 35-36, 45, and 51). Susskind teaches when changes are made to the settings of Video Recording Device 20 by a user within close proximity to VRD 20, the new information is sent to Internet Web Access Device 21 by Internet Remote Control Host Server 24 to allow the remote user to view the new settings.

Susskind teaches a control information alteration unit that sends a message... to a mobile communication terminal (21 – figure 2) of the user, said message including the alteration information unknown to the user (§ 36).

Susskind teaches the control information management server (24 – figure 2) controlling the control object (20 – figure 2) in accordance with the control information (§ 36, 38, and 51). However, Susskind fails to disclose collecting alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information, sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user, and altering the control information based on the alteration information received in response from the user.

In an analogous art, a control information management server (11 – figure 1) that collectively manages control information for controlling a control object (15 – figure 1), the control information management server comprising: a control information alteration unit (25 – figure 2) that collects alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information, for altering the control information (Col. 7, lines 55-63 and Col. 8, lines 35-45).

Marsh further discloses a control information alteration unit that sends a message (figure 8)...to a mobile communication terminal of the user (14 – figure 1) (Col. 11, lines 45-61), said message including the alteration information unknown to the user (Col. 12, lines 4-20) and responsive to the alteration to the first information, said message further including a request for permission to alter the control information (Col. 11, line 62 to Col. 12, line 28). Marsh teaches when a recording conflict is discovered after receiving alteration information unknown to the user, message 200 shown in figure 8 is sent to TV 14 notifying the user of the conflict and the message facilitates the user resolving the conflict interactively on their own.

Marsh teaches a control alteration unit that alters the control information in accordance with the alteration information in response to permission sent from the mobile communication terminal of the user responding to the message (Col. 12, lines 4-28). Marsh teaches using the interactive message 200, a user is able to cancel the program(s) that cause the recording conflict and STB 11 will send the new settings to VCR 15 via VCR blaster 18 (Col. 5, lines 46-56).

Marsh further teaches the control information management server (11 – figure 2) controlling the control object in accordance with the control information (Col 12, lines 4-28).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Susskind to include collecting alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information as taught by Marsh for the benefit of updating a recording event if an occurrence of a program-delay event, or a program-cancel event, results in automatically changing a future-time recording request to contain the new and correct channel and time.

The combination of Susskind and Marsh fail to specifically disclose sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user. In an analogous art, Hirata discloses sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal (1-4 – figure 1) of the user (Col. 10, line 60 to Col. 11, line 8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combination of Susskind and Marsh to include sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user as taught by Hirata for the benefit of preventing unauthorized users from altering the authorized user's scheduled recordings.

Regarding Claim 14, Susskind discloses a control information management system (figure 2) that collectively manages control information for controlling a control object (20 – figure 2), the control information management system comprising: a control information producing unit (24 – figure 2) that produces the control information in

compliance with an instruction from a user that is issued by the user responding to first information (§§ 12, 16, & 50). Susskind teaches a user will make a request for display of the current program listings or “first information” and then user selects a program to record on the user’s video recording device.

Susskind further discloses a control information alteration unit (24 – figure 2) that collects alteration information unknown to the user... (§§ 35-36, 45, and 51). Susskind teaches when changes are made to the settings of Video Recording Device 20 by a user within close proximity to VRD 20, the new information is sent to Internet Web Access Device 21 by Internet Remote Control Host Server 24 to allow the remote user to view the new settings.

Susskind teaches a control information alteration unit (24 – figure 2) that sends a message... to a mobile communication terminal (21 – figure 2) of the user, said message including the alteration information unknown to the user (§§ 36).

Susskind teaches a control information transmission unit (24 – figure 2) that transmits the control information (§§ 38) via a network (22 – figure 2; §§ 31).

Susskind discloses a control information reception unit (20 – figure 2) that receives the transmitted control information (§§ 35-38).

Susskind further discloses a control unit that selects a control object (i.e.; recording hardware and associated components at recording device 20) (§§ 29 & 35-36) corresponding to the received control information, and controls the selected control object in accordance with the received control information (§§ 36, 38, 49, and 51).

However, Susskind fails to disclose collecting alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information, sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user, and altering the control information based on the alteration information received in response from the user.

In an analogous art, a control information management system that collectively manages control information for controlling a control object (15 – figure 1), the control information management system comprising: a control information alteration unit (25 – figure 2) that collects alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information, for altering the control information (Col. 7, lines 55-63 and Col. 8, lines 35-45).

Marsh further discloses a control information alteration unit that sends a message (figure 8)...to a mobile communication terminal of the user (14 – figure 1) (Col. 11, lines 45-61), said message including the alteration information unknown to the user (Col. 12, lines 4-20) and responsive to the alteration to the first information, said message further including a request for permission to alter the control information (Col. 11, line 62 to Col. 12, line 28). Marsh teaches when a recording conflict is discovered after receiving alteration information unknown to the user, message 200 shown in figure 8 is sent to TV 14 notifying the user of the conflict and the message facilitates the user resolving the conflict interactively on their own.

Marsh teaches a control alteration unit that alters the control information in accordance with the alteration information in response to permission sent from the mobile communication terminal of the user responding to the message (Col. 12, lines 4-

28). Marsh teaches using the interactive message 200, a user is able to cancel the program(s) that cause the recording conflict and STB 11 will send the new settings to VCR 15 via VCR blaster 18 (Col. 5, lines 46-56).

Marsh teaches a control information transmission unit (12 – figure 1) that transmits the control information via a network (13 – figure 1) (Col. 5, lines 10-25).

Marsh further teaches a control information reception unit (11 – figure 1) that receives the transmitted control information (Col. 5, lines 10-36).

Marsh discloses a control unit (18 – figure 2) that selects a control object (15 – figure 1) corresponding to the received control information (Col. 5, lines 42-56), and controls the selected control object in accordance with the control information (Col 12, lines 4-28).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Susskind to include collecting alteration information unknown to the user and responsive to alteration to the first information as taught by Marsh for the benefit of updating a recording event if an occurrence of a program-delay event, or a program-cancel event, results in automatically changing a future-time recording request to contain the new and correct channel and time.

The combination of Susskind and Marsh fail to specifically disclose sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user. In an analogous art, Hirata discloses sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal (1-4 – figure 1) of the user (Col. 10, line 60 to Col. 11, line 8). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify

the combination of Susskind and Marsh to include sending a message via email to a mobile communication terminal of the user as taught by Hirata for the benefit of preventing unauthorized users from altering the authorized user's scheduled recordings.

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chris Parry whose telephone number is (571) 272-8328. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM EST to 4:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Grant can be reached on (571) 272-7294. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Chris Parry
Examiner
Art Unit 2623

/CP/



CHRISTOPHER GRANT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600